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FIRST HALIFAX BRIGADE

arrison Artillery.

MANUAL

OF

RTILLERY EXERCISES

FOR

Pounder Guns on Traversing Platforms.

1879.

HALIFAX, N. S.
NOVA SCOTIA PRINTING COMPANY

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DRILL WITH $\frac{64}{32}$ POUNDER R. M. L. GUNS

ON TRAVERSING PLATFORMS.

The Detachment of nine members and in two deep.

TELL OFF.

No. 1 takes a pace to his front, turns to his right, and numbers himself 1; the right-hand man of the rear rank 2; the right-hand man of the front rank 3; the second from the right of the rear rank 4; and so on in succession; even numbers in rear odd in front; No. 1 then resumes his place on the left of the detachment.

TAKE POST UNDER COVER.

No 1 gives "Right turn," "Double march." The detachment stepping off, wheels to its left at the left corner of the platform; the front rank filing to the left of the gun, the rear rank to the right; 2 and 3 halting next to the platform, 4 and 5 upon their right and left, the whole turning to the right about together. No. 1 follows in rear of No. 4, keeping under cover as much as possible, 6 and 8 go to the cartridge store (6 outside), and 7 and 9 to the shell store (7 outside).

GENERAL DUTIES.

No. 1 commands, directs or superintends boring and fixing fuses, holds the preventor rope, lays, and makes ready.

No. 2 searches, sponges, rams home, runs up, elevates, and traverses.

No. 3 loads, uncaps or removes safety pin from fuze when in the bore, rams home, runs up, elevates, and traverses, holds on preventor rope.

No. 4 attends to side arms and supplies them to 2. runs up, and attends to the elevating screw and coin in laying.

No. 5 attends to vent, runs up, and fires.

No. 6 supplies 3 with cartridges.

No. 7 attends to fuzes and brings up projectiles.

No. 8 attends to the cartridge store and serves out cartridges to 6.

No. 9 attends to shell store, issues shells, tubes and fuzes.

PREPARE FOR ACTION.

"Prepare for action."

The Stores are brought up as follows:—

No. 1—Sights if not on the gun, preventor ropes, which he attaches, assisted by 3 if necessary, takes two turns around the bollards.

No. 2—handspike, truck lever, iron shod lever, and assists 4 with side arms.

No. 3 handspike, truck lever, iron shod lever, elevating screw, and removes tampeon from the muzzle.

No. 4—side arms, and support for heads of side arms, hook standing block to rear eyebolt of platform, overhaul tackle, carry movable block to the rear and coil down end of fall.

No. 5—tubes in box, lanyard, pricker and vent plug, hook standing block to rear eyebolt of platform, overhaul tackle, carry movable block to the rear and coil down end of fall.

No. 6—two cartridge cases which he leaves at the cartridge store, bucket filled and brush.

No. 7—set of luff tackle, fuzes, and fuze and shell implements.

No. 8—Prepares to issue cartridges.

No. 9—set of luff tackle and prepares to issue shells.

The stores having been brought up No. 1 gives the order "Elevate." "Clear the vent," "Search the gun," drifts the vent, replaces the prickers in the loop and the vent plug in the vent; No 2 supplies himself with the wad hook. searches the gun after the pricker is withdrawn and replaces the wad hook. Nos. 4 and 5 take a purchase with handspikes over the cheeks and under the breech, the coin is withdrawn and the elevating screw is put in by 3. No. 1 holding up the stool bed with a lever applied over the bottom step of the carriage. No 1 gives the order "Lower," 4 and 5 withdraw their handspikes and lay them down.

LOAD.

No. 2 mounts on the side piece by the step, and places himself in position for sponging and sponges.

No. 3 mounts on the step to put in the cartridge, and on the platform to put in the projectile; as soon as the sponge is withdrawn, takes the cartridge from the cartridge case with his left hand, and places it in the bore, he then slews his body to the right and receives a shell, puts it in the bore, withdraws the safety pin, or uncaps the fuze, places himself in a corresponding position to 2 and assists him to ram home; then quits the stave and goes under cover.

No. 4 doubles out, and supplies side arms to 2, he then waits at the left rear of 2 to receive the side arms, lays them down and goes under cover.

No. 6 brings up a cartridge and places himself on 3's right front, his right hand ready to uncover the cartridge case; after the sponge is withdrawn he uncovers it, and as soon as 3 has withdrawn the cartridge he goes back to the cartridge store.

No. 7 brings up a shell, having fixed the fuze according to No. 1's direction, and hands it to 3; No. 8 issues a cartridge to 6; No. 9 issues a shell to 7.

RUN UP.

"Run up." No. 1 takes in the slack, and holds on the preventor rope; 2, 3, 4 and 5 take up the truck levers; 4 and 5 raising the small ends to enable 2 and 3 to hook the points to the eyebolts, 4 and 5 haul down the small ends by means of the ropes; 2 and 3 place the pawls; 2 goes under cover; 3 holds on the preventor rope behind 1; 4 and 5 guide the levers whilst the carriage is in motion; Nos. 1 and 3 ease off hand-over-hand, and hold on when the mark on the preventor rope comes over the bollard.

No. 1 gives "Halt," when 4 and 5 heave down the small ends of the levers; 2 and 3 throw back the pawls; 4 and 5 allow the small ends of the levers to rise gently, manning the ropes while the levers are above their reach.

When the rear of the carriage rests upon the platform the levers are unhooked, withdrawn, and laid down outside the handspikes by 2, 3, 4 and 5; 2 and 3 pick up their handspikes and stand ready to elevate, 4 attending to the coins and elevating screw.

TO LAY THE GUN.

No. 1 looking over his sights, gives "Elevate," then "Lower," and when the gun is at the required elevation, "Coin." 2 and three lay down their handspikes, and take up the iron-shod levers to traverse; 5 prepares a tube.

At "Trail Right," or "Trail Left," 2 or 3 traverse by applying an iron-shod lever under the rear truck on his own side, the number on the reverse side removing his lever during the operation. At "Halt" they scotch up.

TO MAKE READY AND FIRE.

At "Ready" Nos. 2 and 3 withdraw their levers, turn the bevelled sides up, and place them as scotches

under the trucks, the levers resting on the racers; 2, 3 and 4 then go under cover. No. 1 receiving a tube from 5 places it in the vent, he then falls back to the rear of the platform, and stands looking over his sights, and ready to jump clear on the gun being fired; 5, immediately after firing, drifts the vent, replacing the pricker and vent plug.

RUN BACK.

"Run back." The truck levers are applied as in running up; No. 1 standing between the cheeks of the platform, holds the small ends of the truck levers and guides them; 4 and 5 overhaul the tackle and hook the front blocks to the front eyebolts on the carriage. All the numbers, except No. 1, then man the falls on their respective sides, and at "Heave," haul the gun back.

When the gun is run far enough back, No 1 gives "Halt," hauls down the levers by the ropes till the pawls fall; the levers are then allowed to come up, No 1 rising with them, the front blocks are unhooked by 4 and 5, who carry them to the rear, and coil down the ends of the falls. No. 1 takes in the slack of the preventor rope; 2, 3, 4 and 5 unhook the truck levers and lay them down.

UNLOAD.

No. 2 picks up the wad hook and places himself as for sponging and withdraws the cartridge.

No. 3 mounts up opposite to 2, withdraws the wad, he catches the projectile and hands it to No. 7.

Nos. 4 and 5 take up a handspike each, place them under the breech of the gun and bear down, when the projectile has left the bore the handspikes are laid down; 4 and 5 go under cover.

No. 6 brings up an empty cartridge case, receives the cartridge from No 3, and returns it to store.

CEASE FIRING AND REPLACE STORES.

No. 1 gives "Elevate," "Lower," "Coin," and the gun is laid under metal by 4 and 5; he then gives "Replace Stores," and the stores are replaced by the members who brought them up.

DETACHMENT REAR.

No. 1 doubles to the left rear of the platform, faces to the left and gives the order "Outwards turn," 2 and 4 turn to their left, and 3 and 5 to their right.

"Double march." 4 and 5, followed by 2 and 3, wheel to the right and left, and when clear of the platform to the right round No. 1's left shoulder, 6, 7, 8 and 9 coming up into their places; when 2 and 3 have passed him No. 1 gives "Halt," "Front," and changes his flank by the rear.

CHANGE ROUNDS.

"Change rounds." No 2 becomes 4; 4, 1; 1, 9; 9, 8; 8, 7; 7, 6; 6, 5; 5, 3; and 3, 2; 3 passes round in rear of the gun.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.

The cartridge cylinder should be kept closed until the sponge is out of the bore.

It is an essential duty of No. 1 to ascertain that the charge is rammed home; the present mark on rammer stave is a brass screw.

The term "Load" in general duties means the service cartridge and projectile.

"Side arms" means sponge, rammer, wad hook, and shell extractor; "Attending to vent," means drifting and placing the plug in the vent.

At the words "Under cover" at any time during drill or practice, the whole of the numbers at the gun will lay down their stores and double under cover.